

South Dakota Risk Pool Governing Board Meeting
State Capitol
Tuesday January 29, 2008

The meeting of the South Dakota Risk Pool Governing Board met on Tuesday, January 29th at 4:00 pm at the Capitol in Pierre, South Dakota.

Those in attendance included Chairperson Kathi Mueller, Vice Chair Tom Martinec, Randy Moses, Janet Griffin, Dave Hewett, Larry Iversen and Dennis Studer. Others in attendance were Sandy Zinter.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kathi Mueller. Ms. Mueller explained the purpose of the non-scheduled Board Meeting was to explore possible issues for the South Dakota Risk Pool with the introduction of SB113 and SB114.

Janet Griffin explained to the Board that the introduction of SB114 was driven by Wellmark. She further explained the purpose of the SB114 was Wellmark's desire based on company philosophy to provide a conversion product to former loyal Wellmark group plan members. She said Wellmark recognized that providing such a product was a breakeven business venture at best.

Randy Moses discussed the tie in between SB113 and SB114. He discussed the issues with both bills in their current form. He noted that Wellmark and the Division of Insurance had spoken with the Governor about both bills.

There were numerous questions from Board members concerning the application of the bills and affect they might have on the Risk Pool. The Board was provided with a hog house version of SB114. Randy Moses indicated the new SB114 if passed by the Legislature may provide another option for individuals who now only have the SD Risk Pool for a health insurance option.

A motion was made by Dave Hewett that the South Dakota Risk Pool Board not take any position on SB113 or 114 or give testimony before the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. A second was given by Moses. The motion passed unanimously. Janet Griffin abstained from the vote.

However, the Board did direct Kathi Mueller to provide informational background to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee if asked about the impact upon the South Dakota Risk Pool of the hog housed version of SB114.

A Motion to adjourn was made by Randy Moses at approximately 5:00 pm. and second was given by Tom Martinec. The meeting was adjourned.